

3M NEW ULM
NEW ULM, MINNESOTA

3M New Ulm of New Ulm, Minnesota makes power products (electrical terminators, rubber splices, electrical tape, mastic pads), wire/cable, powdered resins (rebar coating, pipeline, construction, and OEM resins), and plastic molding (wire nuts, telephone connectors, pluggable modules, sealant tubes). Since 1990, the New Ulm facility has reduced solid waste by 93%. The facility is certified to ISO 14001.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Past Accomplishments

3M New Ulm has demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the areas of emissions of ozone depleting chemicals and solid waste. Since 1997, the facility has:

- **Reduced emissions of ozone-depleting chemicals** by eliminating the use of Genesolv solvent and replacing it with a non-ozone depleting solvent. The replacement solvent also has a global warming potential that is 97% less than Genesolv.
- **Reduced solid waste** by 259 tons through recycling and incinerating waste powdered resin.

Future Commitments

3M New Ulm also committed to continued environmental improvement through reductions in toxic releases, release history, VOC emissions, and energy use. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduced toxic releases to land** (zinc sludge disposals) by 33% per 1000 units by reclaiming the zinc and using different chemicals to increase the efficiency of the zinc plating operation.
- **Reduce release history** (chiller Freon (R-22) releases) from 575 pounds (2 releases) to 0 pounds (0 releases) through the addition of new preventive maintenance and a tracking system, and also an increase in the training of contractors.
- **Reduce emissions of VOCs** from 30 to 22.5 tons per year through installing a control feed system for lubricants, establishing a recycling program for HFE solvents, and improving handling procedures.
- **Reduce energy use** per pound of product by 8.8% through upgrading the chiller systems and steam traps, computerizing the heating and cooling system, and introducing a program to find air leaks.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

AT A GLANCE

Industry Sector:	Manufacturing
Business:	Makes power products, resins, plastic molding
Facility Employees:	500 - 1,000
Accomplishments:	Reduced emissions of ozone-depleting chemicals Reduced solid waste
2003 Commitments:	Reduce toxic releases to land Reduce release history Reduce emissions of VOCs Reduce energy use
Address:	1700 North Minnesota Street New Ulm, MN 56073
Web Site:	www.mmm.com

3M New Ulm identifies community concerns by telephone calls from the public. The plant manager is responsible for communication with the press and the public. Depending on the nature of the concern, the plant manager and EMS coordinator are involved and may involve Human Resources, Corporate Public Relations, or Community Affairs Department when appropriate. Community members are informed of important matters via press releases, written letters, and notifications to the Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC). The Performance Track Annual Performance Report will be available on the website (www.3m.com/profile/envt/news/index.html) and in the newspaper.